

## Weekly Field Memo – April 23, 2014

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### NEWS & UPDATES:

#### Jay Ramsey Appointed President-Elect of the NAPE Executive Committee

##### Audience: All

In 2015, Jay will become the first male president in [National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity](#)'s (NAPE) 35-year history! Jay is currently the CTE Workgroup Coordinator and state lead for the STEM Equity Pipeline, which is a project led by NAPE. [Click here](#) to learn more about CTE in Vermont.

**Contact:** Jay Ramsey, CTE Workgroup Coordinator, 802-479-1343 or [jay.ramsey@state.vt.us](mailto:jay.ramsey@state.vt.us)

#### Vermont Munch Times

##### Audience: All

The April 17, 2014 issue is now online: <http://bit.ly/1f4oS4A>. Topics include labels, save the date: Summer Institute, vitamin D, and grant opportunities. View past issues here: <http://bit.ly/19mOFA6>.

**Contact:** Marianna Charalabopoulos, Nutrition, 802-479-1254 or [marianna.charalabopoulos@state.vt.us](mailto:marianna.charalabopoulos@state.vt.us)

#### Reminder: Seeking Nominations for the Vermont Educator Talent Pool

##### Audience: All

##### **Deadline: June 30, 2014**

Do you know a relatively new educator who exemplifies our State's and the Nation's best? Whose lessons provide models for others? Who has distinguished him/herself, and is exceedingly innovative and skilled at inspiring students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn? [Click here](#) to fill out the nomination form. Learn more about the talent pool here: <http://bit.ly/1mZCakW>.

**Contact:** Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, 802-479-1240 or [angela.ross@state.vt.us](mailto:angela.ross@state.vt.us)

#### AOE Communication

##### Audience: All

Our press releases, field memos, calendar of events, and more are online: <http://bit.ly/11ajrtH>. View our strategic plan here: <http://bit.ly/1cZbMBP>. Connect with the AOE on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

**Contact:** Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, 802-479-1240 or [angela.ross@state.vt.us](mailto:angela.ross@state.vt.us)

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### LEGISLATIVE & REQUIRED ACTIONS:

## Educational Support Services (ESS) Survey for SY 2013 – 2014

**Audience:** Superintendents, Principals, Administrators, ESS School Coordinators

**Deadline:** June 15, 2014

[16 V.S.A. § 2904](#) requires that **each** district annually provide the Vermont Secretary of Education with a description of the Educational Support System (ESS), services and supports, how it is funded, and how building the capacity of the ESS is addressed in the School Action Plan. [Click here](#) for more information, [click here](#) to complete the ESS survey.

**Contact:** Dan Shepard, Business Analyst, 802- 479-1345 or [daniel.shepard@state.vt.us](mailto:daniel.shepard@state.vt.us)

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## WEBINARS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

### How to Learn Math: For Students (of all ages)

**Audience:** Educators, Parents, and Students

This FREE on-line class will give learners of math the information they need to become powerful math learners, it will correct any misconceptions they have about what math is, and it will teach them about their own potential to succeed and the strategies needed to approach math effectively. Join me in taking this course, and in sharing ideas in the **How To Learn Math: For Students** group in VE<sup>2</sup>! Click here to learn more: <http://goo.gl/Nt1rEb>.

**Contact:** Tracy Watterson, Elementary Mathematics, 802-479-1353 or [tracy.watterson@state.vt.us](mailto:tracy.watterson@state.vt.us)

### Vermont Community of Health Educators (VCHE)

**Audience:** Teachers, principals, superintendents, curriculum coordinators

VCHE provides members with a dynamic network of professional and personal support including PD tailored to the needs of health education professionals across VT and opportunities to connect with health educator colleagues for rich and meaningful discussions about the state of health education across our state and nationally. [Click here](#) to learn more about VCHE, read the Statement of Commitment [here](#).

**Contact:** Donna McAllister, Health Education, 802-479-1426 or [donna.mcallister@state.vt.us](mailto:donna.mcallister@state.vt.us)

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## CONFERENCES:

### Save the Date: Assessment Options for Students with Special Assessment Needs

**Audience:** Classroom Teachers, Special Educators, Professionals Who Serve Students with Special Assessment Needs

On May 29, 2014, the AOE will be hosting a conference on [Assessment Options for Students with Special Assessment Needs](#), which will provide an intro to Vermont's two new assessments: **Smarter Balanced** (SBAC) and **Dynamic Learning Maps** (DLM). Strategies and information needed to complete assessment participation components of IEPs, 504 Plans or EST Plans will be emphasized.

**Contacts:** Michael Hock, State Assessment Director, 802-479-1288 or [michael.hock@state.vt.us](mailto:michael.hock@state.vt.us); Cindy Moran, Alternate Assessment Coordinator, 802-479-1432 or [cindy.moran@state.vt.us](mailto:cindy.moran@state.vt.us)

### Access for Success: Academic Instruction and Assessment for Students with Significant Disabilities

**Deadline:** June 30, 2014

**Audience:** General Educators, Special Educators, Administrators, Parents, Related Service Providers

This free, three-day conference (August 18-20, 2014) at the Hampton Inn in Colchester will provide educators with information and resources related to instruction and assessment of students with

significant cognitive disabilities. Focused on the standards-based learning targets and curriculum-connected instruction, participants will add to their toolbox of interventions and materials that support these goals. [Click here](#) to learn more or to register with your school team.

**Contact:** Cindy Moran, Alternate Assessment Coordinator, 802-479-1432 or [cindy.moran@state.vt.us](mailto:cindy.moran@state.vt.us)

### **VSI Science and Engineering Academy-Energy and Engineering**

**Audience: Administrators, K-8 Educators**

The Vermont Science Initiative (VSI) is offering sustained support for K-8 teachers through the 2014-2015 *VSI Science and Engineering Academy* beginning this summer. Through a combination of a summer institute focusing on energy, three (3) follow up days, sustained support through on-site team meetings (PLCs), and additional content through the NSTA Learning Center, teachers will deepen their understanding of science and engineering content and best instructional practices and earn four (4) graduate credits. For more information and to apply, click here: <http://tinyurl.com/qhmfv8b> or contact Renee Affolter at [raffolter.vtscience@gmail.com](mailto:raffolter.vtscience@gmail.com) or Maura O'Brien at [mauraobrienscienced@gmail.com](mailto:mauraobrienscienced@gmail.com).

**Contact:** Pat Fitzsimmons, Math/Science Partnership, 802-479-1425 or [pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us](mailto:pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us)

### **Vermont Science Teachers' Association Conference: Last Call for Registration!**

**Audience: Science Teachers, Special Educators, Librarians, Principals, Curriculum Coordinators**

The *Integration of NGSS and the Common Core Standards: What Does It Look Like?* conference will be held on April 30, at Lake Morey Resort from 8am - 3:15pm. Learn more and register here: <http://goo.gl/tLX6xw>.

**Contacts:** Science Coordinators: Gail Hall [gail.hall@state.vt.us](mailto:gail.hall@state.vt.us); Kathy Renfrew [kathy.renfrew@state.vt.us](mailto:kathy.renfrew@state.vt.us)

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## **STANDARDS & ASSESSMENTS:**



### **Vermont PLN: New Blog Post features Judy Carr**

**Audience: Audience**

Check out the [Vermont Professional Learning Network \(PLN\)](http://vtpln.blogspot.com/) blog! This month Judy Carr talks about Common Core and Curriculum Alignment: <http://vtpln.blogspot.com/>.

**Contacts:** Lauren Wooden at 802-497-1642 or [lauren.wooden@vermontpln.org](mailto:lauren.wooden@vermontpln.org); Bob Stanton at 802-224-9110 or [bob.stanton@vermontpln.org](mailto:bob.stanton@vermontpln.org); Casey Murrow at 802-257-8600 or [casey.murrow@vermontpln.org](mailto:casey.murrow@vermontpln.org)



### **Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM): FAQ**

**Audience: All**

Where can I find information related to writing for students with significant disabilities? [Click here](#) to view the answer. Learn more about DLM here: <http://bit.ly/1g80awP>.

**Contact:** Cindy Moran, Alternate Assessment Coordinator, 802-479-1432 or [cindy.moran@state.vt.us](mailto:cindy.moran@state.vt.us)



### **Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS): FAQ**

**Audience: All**

How are the *Next Generation Science Standards* aligned to the National Research Council's *Framework for K-12 Science Education*? [Click here](#) to see the answer. [Click here](#) to access the science standards.

**Contacts:** Gail Hall, Middle-High School Science, 802-479-1284 or [gail.hall@state.vt.us](mailto:gail.hall@state.vt.us); Kathy Renfrew, K-5 Science, 802-479-1448 or [kathy.renfrew@state.vt.us](mailto:kathy.renfrew@state.vt.us)



## **SMARTER Balanced: Student Correspondence to Vermont Secretary of Education**

**Audience:** All

A Highgate Elementary School 4<sup>th</sup> grade student recently wrote Secretary Holcombe to express concerns about standardized testing. [Click here](#) to read the student's letter and the Secretary's response.

**Contacts:** Michael Hock, State Assessment Director, 802 479-1288 or [michael.hock@state.vt.us](mailto:michael.hock@state.vt.us); Frank Gerdeman, ISL-Secondary & Adult Assistant Director, 802-479-1381 or [frank.gerdeman@state.vt.us](mailto:frank.gerdeman@state.vt.us)

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## **OTHER EDUCATION NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS:**

### **Final Call: Application for Student Membership on the Vermont State Board of Education (SBE)**

**Audience:** All

**Deadline:** May 2, 2014

Governor Shumlin's office is seeking applications for student membership on the SBE. This opportunity is open to Vermont secondary students who will graduate in 2016 or later. The term is for a two-year membership on the SBE. [Click here](#) to learn more and view the application.

**Contact:** Susan Spaulding, Governor Shumlin's Office, 802-828-3333 or [susan.spaulding@state.vt.us](mailto:susan.spaulding@state.vt.us)

### **School Facilities Workshop**

**Audience:** Principals, Business Managers, and School Facility Directors

The Vermont Facilities Maintenance Directors Association is offering a one-day conference (May 13) for school personnel interested in school facilities, energy-saving initiatives, group purchasing, optimal staffing levels, and more. [Click here](#) to view the agenda, [click here](#) to register.

**Contact:** Chris Locarno, Business Manager at Orange North SU, 802-433-5818 or [clocarno@onsu.org](mailto:clocarno@onsu.org)

### **National School Nurse Day: May 7, 2014**

**Audience:** All

The theme this year, *The School Nurse: Caring for Others, Caring for Ourselves* is reflective of the significant roles school nurses have in the healthcare in their school communities, as well as in modeling health and resiliency. [Click here](#) to read the press release. Vermont has 260 School Nurses and 71 Associate School Nurses, please take a moment to thank your nurse colleagues for their work and compassion!

**Contact:** Sharonlee Trefry, State School Nurse Consultant, [sharonlee.trefry@state.vt.us](mailto:sharonlee.trefry@state.vt.us) or 802-863-7348

### **2014 3SquaresVT Outreach and Policy Conference: May 29, 2014**

**Audience:** School Food Service Directors, Nurses, Counselors, and Social Workers

**Deadline:** May 15

Please join us at the annual 3SquaresVT Outreach and Policy Conference on May 29<sup>th</sup> in Randolph to gain a deeper knowledge of 3SquaresVT rules, participation process, and learn about recent policy changes. Come network with colleagues and build skills to help your students and their families access the 3SquaresVT nutrition program and put healthy food on their tables at home. [Click here](#) to see the agenda and register!

**Contact:** Angela Smith-Dieng, Hunger Free Vermont, 802-865-0255 or [asmith-dieng@hungerfreevt.org](mailto:asmith-dieng@hungerfreevt.org)

### **Vermont DEMHS: April Newsletter is Online**

**Audience:** All

The Vermont Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) publishes a [monthly newsletter](#) which includes information on grants, emergency assistance, best practices, and more. [Click here](#) to read the April newsletter.

**Contact:** Mark Bosma, Public Information Officer, 800-347-0488 or [mark.bosma@state.vt.us](mailto:mark.bosma@state.vt.us)

### **Vermont Department of Libraries: April Newsletter is Online**

#### **Audience: All**

The Vermont Department of Libraries publishes a [monthly newsletter](#). The newsletter includes info from the State Librarian, webinars, conferences, and more. [Click here](#) to read the April newsletter.

**Contact:** Brittney Wilson, State Librarian's Office, 802-828-3266 or [brittney.wilson@state.vt.us](mailto:brittney.wilson@state.vt.us)

### **Code Camp 2014: Make the Hour of Code Last All Year Long!**

#### **Audience: All**

Join us for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tarrant Code Camp at UVM, August 4-8, 2014. We're offering five different strands this year, including web development, iOS app-building, and computer art. Learn to program alongside other Vermont educators and students, and get a head start on your future. Full scholarships and UVM graduate credits available. Learn more here: <http://codecamp.tarrantinstitute.org>.

**Contact:** Erin Wertlieb, Tarrant Institute, 802-656-2641 or [codecamp@tarrantinstitute.org](mailto:codecamp@tarrantinstitute.org)

### **U.S. Department of Education Awards More than \$33 Million to Local Education Agencies and Community-based Organizations to Develop Physical Education and Nutrition Programs**

#### **Audience: All**

"A healthy, active lifestyle is an important ingredient of academic success," U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said. "These grants are a resource to help schools and communities develop programs that teach students the importance of staying active and developing healthy lifestyles. We need more states, districts, schools and communities to recognize the critically important role of physical education in improving student engagement and achievement." [Click here](#) to read the press release and learn more.

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This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Vermont Agency of Education (VT-AOE) to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the Agency will still be sent. In addition, the VT-AOE Weekly Field Memo is [archived](#) on the Agency of Education website. For information which is three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, at (802) 479-1240 or [angela.ross@state.vt.us](mailto:angela.ross@state.vt.us).

**Sign up for the weekly field memo here:** [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field\\_memo.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html)

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